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19 June 1965

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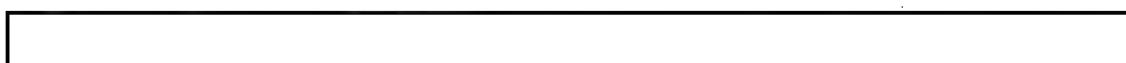
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
RELATING TO NATIONAL SECURITY

STATE review(s) completed.



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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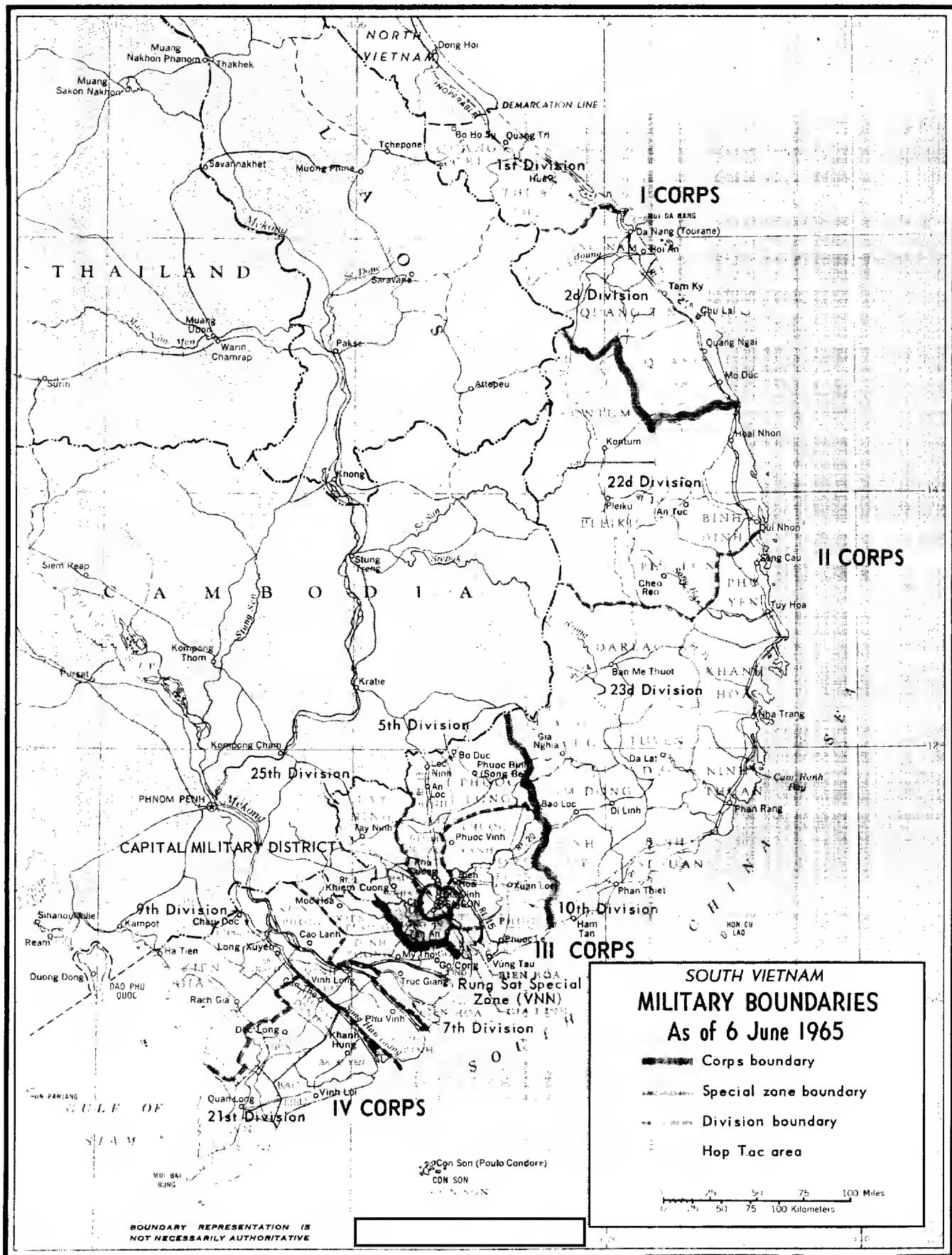
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Special Forces teams conducting follow-up ground reconnaissance of the target area struck on 18 June by US B-52 strategic bombers found well-fortified Viet Cong installations in all three zones penetrated, but no evidence of direct bomb damage or casualties.

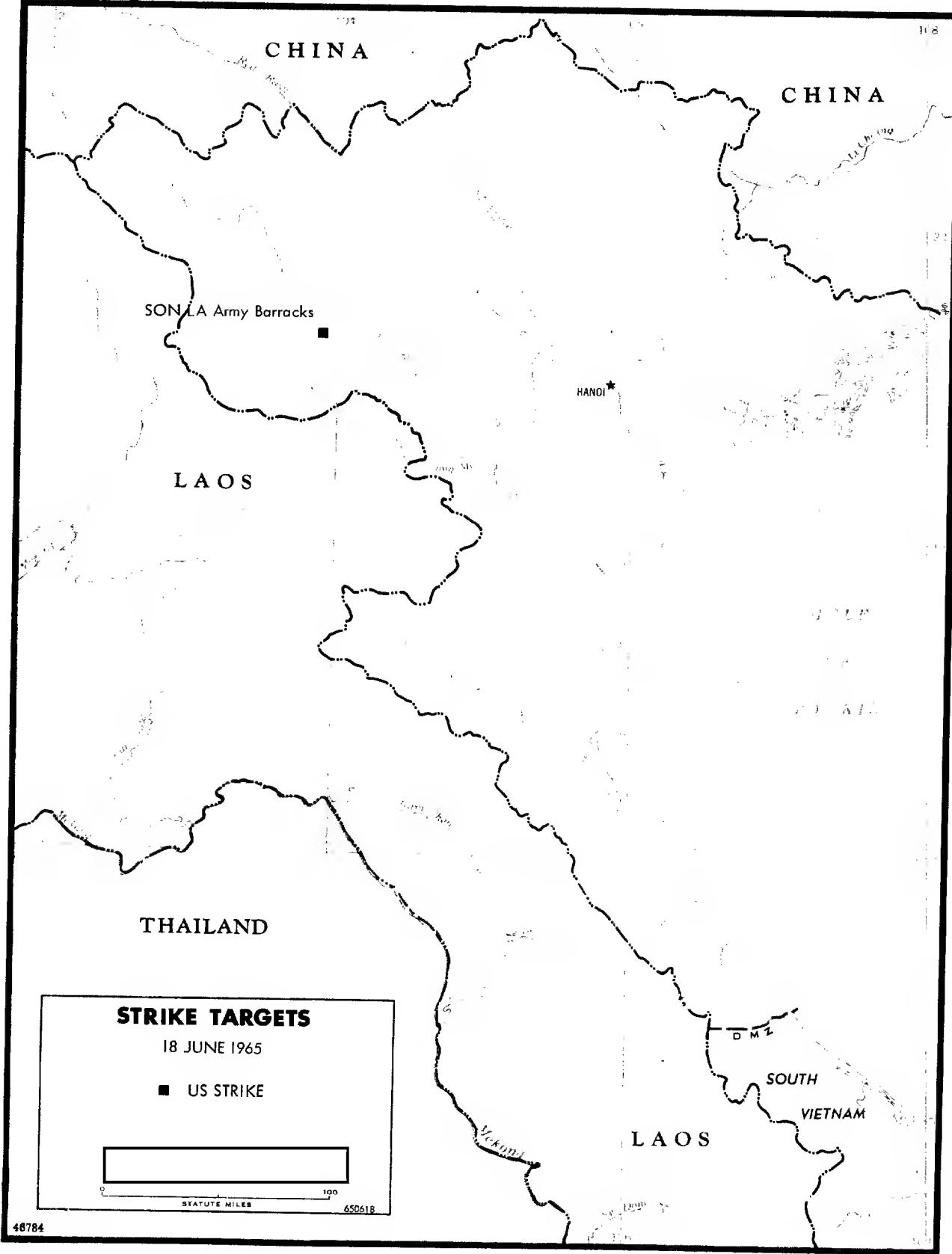
The teams located a large camp of 10-20 buildings in the center of the base, a camp of 10 buildings in the western portion, and several company-sized bivouac areas in the eastern portion. They estimated that one Viet Cong battalion had hastily evacuated the center camp at the start of the bombing. All camps were subsequently destroyed by the special forces using grenades and other explosives.

According to press reports, the Viet Cong yesterday launched a mortar attack on the district town of Chu Chi, about 15 miles southwest of the target area and some 18 miles northwest of Saigon in Hau Nghia Province. About 40 persons were wounded, half of them civilians.

In other actions, government troops reportedly killed 10 Viet Cong and lost four killed, including two Americans, in an operation 55 miles southwest of Saigon, and lost 17 troops, including three US advisers, in a battle 285 miles northeast of the capital. Two Americans were killed and a third wounded in a government attack on Viet Cong positions near Da Nang.

Political Developments in South Vietnam: General Ky today was appointed premier of the new military government. It is not yet clear whether he is relinquishing

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his powerful air force command. After a full-scale military meeting today, Ky's cabinet, which includes only two other military officers, was presented to the Saigon public. As projected, it contains only five full ministers, two of them held over from the Quat government. Of the ten secretaries of state, three served under Quat.

The Situation in North Vietnam:

[redacted] the popular mood in Hanoi is now much more relaxed than three months ago. The DRV regime, [redacted] is now convinced it can withstand US air attacks and is preparing for a long struggle. Civil defense preparations continue at a rapid pace in apparent belief that the US will bomb Hanoi. [redacted] the DRV is not at all interested in negotiations.]

Air Strikes in North Vietnam: On 18 June USAF aircraft struck the Son La army barracks and headquarters area in the northwestern DRV, the most northerly DRV target attacked to date, destroying one building and damaging several others. USAF armed reconnaissance aircraft destroyed or damaged 25 buildings in military areas around Muong Sen and damaged two buildings at the Cua Lo radar site.

Communist Political Developments: A statement issued by a Liberation Front official in Cairo on 17 June suggests that the Front may be moving toward a formal claim to legitimacy as the "provisional government" in South Vietnam and may be planning to exploit the coming Afro-Asian conference in Algiers for this purpose. The Front took another step in its effort to obtain a seat as the official representative of South Vietnam at the conference, issuing a memorandum on 17 June cataloging the crimes of the Saigon "administration" and attempting to prove that the Front and not Saigon should be recognized as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people.

In a Chinese Foreign Ministry statement on 18 June, Peiping again blasted the announcement that US troops

could play a combat role in Vietnam. While not extending Peiping's present conditional commitment to send men "if needed," the statement is apparently designed to give the impression that China has moved closer to direct military involvement in Vietnam. Asserting that the US "has embarked" on the road of fighting a Korean-type war, it warned that China had completed all preparations and would "promptly" send "volunteers" to Vietnam upon receiving a Vietnamese request to do so.

Peiping is also showing every indication of holding to its hard line on Vietnam negotiations.

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Peiping has not yet responded officially to the Commonwealth Peace Mission proposal but an editorial in a Communist-controlled Hong Kong paper on 17 June indicates that the Chinese response may be negative. Sneering at new US "enticements to peace," the editorial called the "concession" the British were asking the US to make--a halt in the bombing of North Vietnam-- "worthless." The paper repeated Peiping's position that the Vietnamese would continue fighting until US troops were withdrawn and North and South Vietnam united.

The editorial may also signal a Chinese rejection of recent suggestions that the Viet Cong could be represented at any negotiations through inclusion in the North Vietnamese delegation by asserting that the Liberation Front was the only representative of the South Vietnamese people and that it was only a waste of time to try to "entice" the Vietnamese by means of "partial recognition."

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*Dominican Republic: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT) Yesterday was one of the quietest days since the insurrection began as the two governments and other Dominican groups weighed the OAS proposals for a solution to the eight week old crisis.

Rebel leaders have been granted their request for "three or four days" to study the proposals, but the OAS committee has made clear that it will not wait indefinitely. Rebel leaders told their followers immediately after meeting the committee that they would respond with counter-proposals. They repeated the slogan "not one step backward."

Nevertheless, the rebel leaders are under mounting pressure even from within their own camp for significant concessions. There is additional evidence of deteriorating morale among the rebels and the OAS committee found the atmosphere at rebel headquarters much more conciliatory than in recent days. The crowds outside shouted "solution" instead of the customary hostile epithets.

The influence of hard-line extremists in the rebel camp was much less obvious yesterday and even the rebel radio has become a bit less inflammatory. Firing from the rebel zone was minimal with only several random incidents involving single shots at US positions.

The Imbert government told the OAS committee that it could accept "almost all" of the proposals, though a few might require further discussion. Colonel Benoit, the military member of the Imbert junta, was particularly forceful in his endorsement of the OAS proposal for the return of the Dominican military to the barracks. He conceded that military intervention in Dominican politics had been the "curse" of the country.

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The Afro-Asian foreign ministers are to meet on 24 June to pave the way for the formal meeting of their chiefs of state. They will be faced with numerous problems which ordinarily should have been resolved in the various meetings of the preparatory committee.

Their major problem is whether invitations should be issued to Malaysia, South Korea, South Vietnam, and the USSR. None of these governments was included when Algerian President Ben Bella issued the original formal invitations in mid-May.

Congo (Leopoldville) was invited provisionally, since Ben Bella's invitation merely excluded Premier Tshombé. Tshombé has already indicated the Congo would not attend, however.

Moscow has intensified its efforts to win an invitation. Whatever the outcome, Moscow probably hopes to be able to point to Peiping's heavy-handed and uncompromising tactics as evidence that the Chinese place a higher priority on their anti-Soviet campaign than on strengthening Afro-Asian forces.

India is spearheading the drive for Soviet participation. There is substantial support for Soviet presence, particularly among such moderates as Cameroon,

(continued)

East Germany - Berlin: Despite allied protests, continued
the East Germans ~~are~~ ^{last week} continuing their helicopter
flights in the Berlin area in violation of Four Power
rights to exclusive use of the airspace.

The frequency of the flights ~~was~~ ^{has been} increased,
and they ~~are~~ ^{now} being conducted more ostentatiously.
In contrast to the earlier intermittent pattern, flights ~~were~~ ^{from 14 to 18 June.}
of helicopters ~~have been~~ carried out daily ~~for the~~
past five days. On 17 June one reduced speed over
the most populated areas along the sector borders.

Responses by Soviet officials to allied protests
suggest that they are seeking allied acceptance of
East German flights anywhere in the Berlin area ex-
cept over the Western sectors. According to one
East German spokesman, however, GDR aircraft
have the right to fly over any part of the city since
it is located on the territory of the GDR. In fact, on
at least three occasions ~~in the past week,~~ the heli-
copters have crossed into Western sector airspace.

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***Algeria:** (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT) A military coup against President Ben Bella appears to be in progress.

At dawn this morning Algiers time, troops and tanks of the Algerian Army were in possession of most key government buildings in the city--possibly including the residences of both President Ben Bella and his constitutional successor--following a night of sporadic firing.

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The US Embassy says normal civilian activities appeared to be continuing, although Radio Algiers did not come on the air at the usual time. The Embassy foresees no immediate danger to American lives or property.

The Algerian Army--now well-equipped with Soviet materiel and capably led--is probably the most cohesive force in the country, and certainly the only one capable of challenging Ben Bella's position. Its leader, Vice-Premier and Defense Minister Houari Boumedienne, has reportedly been dissatisfied with Ben Bella's leftist bent.

In any showdown with Boumedienne's forces, the once popular Ben Bella could probably count on little support from the Algerian masses, who have become disillusioned by the ineffectiveness of his government and general economic stagnation in the country.

The Army may have capitalized on Ben Bella's intense preoccupation with preparations for the second Afro-Asian Conference, scheduled to begin in Algiers on 29 June.

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NOTES

South Korea: Students from major universities in Seoul have begun a new round of antigovernment demonstrations. The signature of the Korean-Japanese agreement, which may take place next week, could add further fuel to the agitation. Some students are also again raising protests against the Korean-US status-of-forces agreement.

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Special Counsel to the President

The Special Assistant for National Security Affairs

The Scientific Adviser to the President

The Director of the Budget

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The Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State

The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs

The Counselor and Chairman of the Policy Planning Council

The Director of Intelligence and Research

The Treasury Department

The Secretary of the Treasury

The Under Secretary of the Treasury

The Department of Defense

The Secretary of Defense

The Deputy Secretary of Defense

The Secretary of the Army

The Secretary of the Navy

The Secretary of the Air Force

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs)

The Assistant Secretary of Defense

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Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

Chief of Staff, United States Army

Commandant, United States Marine Corps

U.S. Rep., Military Committee and Standing Group, NATO

Supreme Allied Commander, Europe

Commander in Chief, Pacific

Commander in Chief, Atlantic

The Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

The Director, The Joint Staff

The Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Department of Army

The Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of Navy

The Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Department of the Air Force

The Department of Justice

The Attorney General

The Federal Bureau of Investigation

The Director

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The Administrator

The Atomic Energy Commission

The Chairman

The National Security Agency

The Director

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The National Indications Center

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